OCIL 21511 V

RIDERS OF MYSTERY

Photoplay in 5 reels

and Atmany

Story by George Byper

Directed by Robert North Bradbury

Author of the photoplay (under section 62) Independent Pictures Corporation of U.S.

Washington, D. C.

Register of Copyrights Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I herewith respectfully request the return of the following named motion picture films deposited by me for registration of copyright in the name of Independent Pictures Corporation

Riders of Mystery - 5 reels

Moccasins - 5 reels

Blood and Steel - 5 reels

Respectfully,

FULTON BRYLAWSKI

The Independent Pictures Corporation hereby acknowledges the receipt of two copies each of the motion picture films deposited and registered in the Copyright Office as follows:

Title

Date of Deposit

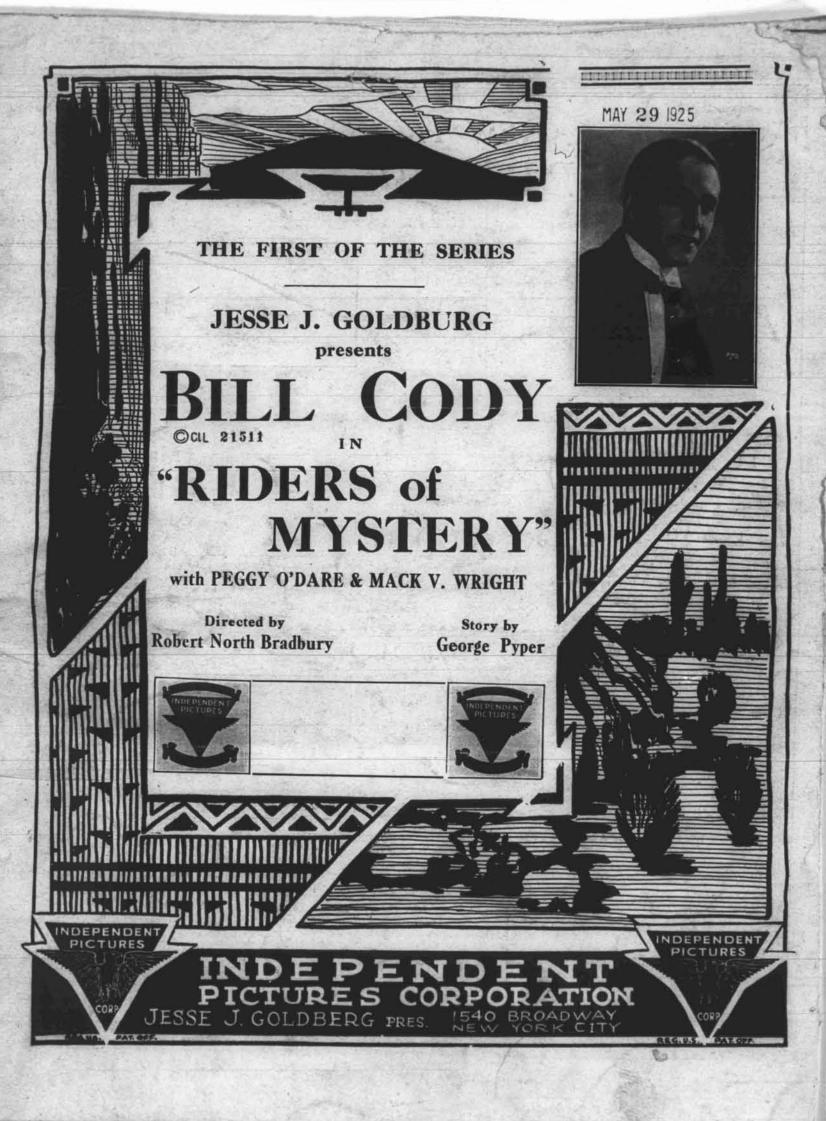
Registration

Riders of Mystery Moccasins Blood and Steel 5-29-25 ©CIL 21511 ©CIL 21512 ©CIL 21513

The return of the above copies was requested by the said Company, by its agent and attorney on the 29th day of May, 1925 and the said Fulton Brylawski for himself, and as the duly authorized agent and attorney of the said Company, hereby acknowledges the delivery to him of said copies, and the receipt thereof.

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Decemin & leve.





NEW PROCESS LOBBY DISPLAY







THESE
ARE
COLORED
11 x 14



Made by Expert Manufacturers

TITLE CARD











NOTE—See Exhibit of 22 x 28 on Page 15

"Riders of Mystery"



Director . . . Robert North Bradbury

Cameraman . . . Bert Longenecker

Story and Continuity . . George W. Pyper



THE CAST

Bob Merriwell, a young prospector BILL CODY "Old Jerry" Jones, his side-kick . Frank Rice John Arliss, Sheriff Tom Lingham Helen Arliss, his daughter Peggy O'Dare Dan Blair Mack V. Wright





"Riders of Mystery"?

STORY

John Arliss, sheriff of Argo county, Arizona, bids good-bye to his daughter Helen, affectionately known as the "sheriffette", to hunt down mysterious robbers known as "phantom bandits", due to the sinister character of their operations. No person has yet dared attempt to track them down, and those who have made a try to find the terrorizers have met untimely deaths. Heedless of the advice of his fellow townsmen, and especially the words of Dan Blair, trusty stage driver, and in love with Helen, Sheriff Arliss rides off alone into the valley of mystery.

Long-weathered to the hazard of his calling, the man has no fear of the bandits, but strikes out over the haunted trail country where the robbers are known to keep rendezvous with courage and assurance of success. In the absence of the father of the Arliss household, Dan Blair presses his suit for the hand of the "sheriffette".

Shadowed figures gathered about a camp-fire on the crest of a hill glimpse the solitary figure of the sheriff, as the coming night descends. Reasoning that he would not be alone, they break camp, and one of their number takes a shot at the rider. Arliss drops from his horse, and lies as if dead all night.

He is found and revived at dawn the next day, by Bob Merriwell, a newcomer in the district, and his side-kick, old Jerry. The two men carry the wounded sheriff to an abandoned shack, and learn his identity and story. Both pledge themselves to assist in the capture of the bandits. It is agreed that the sheriff will remain under cover, and that the news of his death is to be confirmed with all possible speed, in order to throw the robbers off their guard. Helen is the only one to know the truth, and this is to be done thru the delivery of her father's belt by Bob and Jerry, when they go in town for food.

The two men reach town, and Jerry goes to buy provisions while Bob pays a call on Helen to deliver the belt and explain her father's absence. Unfortunately, Dan Blair is also calling on Helen, and at the sight of the sheriff's belt and Helen's agitation, accuses the stranger of murdering Sheriff Arliss. Before he can explain, Bob is thrown into jail, and Blair has incited the populace against him. Jerry is just in time to prevent a "hemp party" in which Bob would have played the leading role. Bob escapes with Jerry, who has already explained the truth to Helen.

In the days that follow, Bob is almost constantly on the trails, gathering information about the bandits. He learns of the prospective hold-up of the stage on the day when the mine payroll is to be carried thru. His information also leads him to regard with grave suspicion, the honesty of the hitherto unsuspected stage-driver—Dan Blair. On the day before the stage-robbery is to occur, he returns to the shack where the sheriff has been convalescing under Jerry's care, and voices his suspicions to the two men. It is decided that a posse be organized, and kept in readiness for the next day.

Helen meantime, is riding to keep her tryst at the shack with her father. She meets Dan Blair who promises to lead her to her father, but instead carries her to the cave where his gang have headquarters. She is kept there during the next day, and hears Blair and his gang return with the spoils of the holdup. They all start out to make a get-away, but are forced to take the river trail, as they fear detection. At the most dangerous part of the trail they are over-taken by Bob and the Sheriff, with a posse. A sensational fight results in the capture of Blair and his gang, and the return of the money.

Upon being freed, Helen's first thought is for her father and then her attention turns to Bob, who has the wedding ring already bought for her slender finger.

BIOGRAPHY No. 1 BILL CODY Born in Winnipeg, Canada. Attended public school in Winnipeg and later entered St. Johns University, Collegeville, Minn. also St. Thomas' Military Academy, St. Paul, Minn. Was with Metropolitan Stock Co., Fort William, Canada. In musical comedy in New York City which later toured the South. Returned to New York and started in pictures with Cosmopolitan Productions with them for about two years. Meanwhile engaged by independent companies, playing leads and heavies. At the present time, is in Hollywood starring in a series of Westerns for Independent Pictures Corp., the first of these productions is "Riders of Mystery", and is now generally released throughout the United States. **BIOGRAPHY No. 2** BILL CODY Before Bill Cody made his appearance on the screen, he was a juvenile on the legitimate playing in the Western States and Canada. He was a student at St. John's University, Collegeville, Minn., having won the gold and silver medal there for all-'round athletics. He also attended St. Thomas' Military Academy, St. Paul, Minn., then coming East started with Cosmopolitan Productions, at which time he had a chance to display his athletic ability. Bill Cody has appeared in the following pictures: "Too Many Husbands" "Opportunity" "Under the Red Robe" "Enemies of Women" "Janice Meredith" "When Knighthood was in Flower" "Little Old New York" "Faint Hearts" "King Mide." Hearts" "King Midas" "Something for Nothing". At the present time he is in Hollywood, being starred in a series of Westerns for Independent Pictures Corp., the first of which is completed, and and titled "Riders of Mystery". Here Bill Cody has been given ample opportunity to work in pictures as a real he-man, and he fits the part NDEPENDEN 1540 BROAD JESSE J. GOLDBURG PRES. REG.U.S PAT. OFF.

Newspaper Stories and Reviews

"Riders of Mystery"—New Thriller—Booked at the......Theatre

According to Mr...... this picture is bound to prove a strong attraction for patrons of the moving picture world who appreciate a strong picture, splendidly made and directed. The story is said to be full of thrills with a fascinating touch of mystery, and, of course, plenty of love interest. He guarantees it to be one hundred per cent interesting to every patron who wants zip, action, adventure and romance combined in one picture.

The story was written by George W. Pyper who has made a great reputation as a writer of western adventure stories of first class calibre. A story by Pyper always means sustained interest, and most of one's time is spent sitting on the edge of the theatre chair in order not to lose one breathless moment.

The locale of Riders of Mystery is in Argo county, Arizona, and is based on a true story that happened to the author several years ago when he was prospecting in the west.

Sheriff Arliss bids good-bye to his daughter Helen, and rides off alone to hunt for the sinister bandits who have been terrorizing the district for months. During his absence, Dan Blair, the trusty stage-driver presses his suit for Helen's hand.

Arliss is wounded by the bandits, and is rescued by Bob Merriwell, a young prospector and his side-kick, "Old Jerry" Jones. The three men agree that it is best to let the bandits believe that the sheriff has been killed. In order to alleviate Helen's anxiety, her father sends his belt to her by Bob and Jerry when they go to town to secure provisions. When Bob calls on Helen to deliver the belt he finds Dan Blair with her. Blair jumps to the conclusion that Bob has murdered the sheriff and the young prospector is saved from hanging by the incensed townsmen, by the arrival of old Jerry who explains the situation to Helen, and helps Bob escape.

A series of exciting adventures follow in which Helen is deceived into believing that she is being conducted to her father. There is a startling denouement to the plot, and final fight full of red-blooded action and thrills, according to Manager.....

BILL CODY—LOVER OF HORSES

ADVANCE STORY

Two summers ago when Bill was making a picture for Jesse J. Goldberg, president of Independent Pictures Corporation he and the rest of the company were camped one night on the crest of a hill. Every member of the company except Bill had retired preparatory for a big day on the morrow. As Bill sat smoking by the fire he heard strange sounds in the brushwood. With gun ready he walked a little out

of range of the fire, but could see nothing. The sounds continued.

By the time he had made several trips to the right and left of the fire, Bill's interest was thoroughly aroused. Whatever that sound was, he did not know, but he was determined to find out.

He set down by the fire and waited. The tapping came nearer. It was a four-footed animal of some sort, was Bill's mental comment. And directly to the rear of him. Hardly breathing he waited until he felt the breath of the animal on his neck, and then wheeled suddenly gun in firing position. He confronted two childish brown-eyes, warm and soft with wonder, and belonging to the daintiest brown colt he had ever seen. With a startled

glance at the gun, she kicked up her heels at him, and dashed away in the darkness, with Bill after her.

She led him a chase down the road and off to the left, a short distance away from a dying campfire. In the half light, Bill recognized the figures of several horses tied to the trees, and two steeping figures by the fire. Bill, seasoned to adventure, advanced cautiously, with gun poised. The rest all happened with more rapidity than the climaxes in his new picture, "Riders of Mystery." The men woke suddenly, mistook Bill for the sheriff and confessed to stealing the horses from the barn of the sheriff himself. It did not take many minutes for Bill to have the culprits tied up and marching down the road to

the sheriff. "He declares he would'n't have missed the sight of their faces when they discovered that the man in the night shirt who was roused out of bed, and not he, their captor was the sheriff.

During all this the young colt had been right with at Bill's elbow, and when the sheriff asked the screen actor what he wanted in addition to the reward for the horse-thieves, she stuck her nose in his elbow as if to say "Me". Bill couldn't resist, and took her a'ong. And she's now quite a famous screen star, as patrons of Riders of Mystery will note.

This new picture is from an original story by George W. Pyper. The cast includes, in addition to Bill Cody, Peggy O'Dare, and other famous stars.

"RIDERS OF MYSTERY"—POWERFUL DRAMA

REVIEW

 Riders of Mystery tells the thrilling story of a search for phantom bandits who have been terrorizing the county of Argo, in Arizona for months. No one but courageous Sheriff Arliss will attempt to track them down, and weathered to the hazard of his calling he bids his daughter good-bye and sets out for the haunted valley. Here one must stop in narrating the story to comment favorably on the beautiful exterior scenes in the picture. In these days of pictures of interior, built in sets, one views with relief some out-of door scenes of such beauty as those in this new Independent Picture's release.

The sheriff is mysteriously shot and left apparently dead. The next day, Bob Merriwell, excellently played by Bill Cody and his side-kick, Old Jerry Jones find him and carry him to an abandoned shack. They nurse him back to health, and it is agreed that all shall help in tracking down the thieves. In order, to do this successfully they decide that the sheriff shall remain under cover, as if he really had been killed. Bob and Jerry plan to carry his belt to Helen, so that she will not be worried. Unfortunately when Bob calls to deliver the belt, Dan Blair, the trusty stage driver, and suitor for Helen's hand is present, and at

the sight of the Sheriff's belt bedlam breaks loose. Blair accuses Bob of murdering the sheriff, and incites the townsfolk against him. A hanging is just prevented by the timely arrival of Jerry, who aids Bob to escape and explains a part of the situation to Helen.

Peggy O'Dare does splendid work as Helen, and proves herself an able person to support Bill Cody, who does some of the best work of his career in this picture. Frank Rice, as Old Jerry furnishes some bright comedy bits in the tense moments.

Riders of Mystery will continue to-day and to-morrow.

Newspaper Shorts and Reviews

ADVANCE NOTICE

"Riders of Mystery"-New Film

One of the most thrilling scenes ever witnessed on the screen in a western drama is said to be the fight scene in Riders of Mystery, the new film announced for the...... theatre, beginning next.....

Manager.....states that he makes a specialty of picking out fights in pictures, and contrasting them, and the one in his new attraction for next week is the best he has seen yet. For those who want to thrill and be thrilled, this climatic encounter between the phantom bandits, and the sheriff's posse has all the power in the world available to secure just that result.

Bill Cody, well-known among moving picture patrons has the role of brave Bob Merriwell, a young prospector, who with his side-kick, Old Jerry Jones, rescues Sheriff Arliss, and aids him in his search for the phantom bandits. Peggy O'Dare plays the role of Helen. the sheriff's daughter and Tom Lingham is the sheriff.

The picture is from an original story by George W. Pyper. Robert North Bradbury is the director.

REVIEW

"Riders of Mystery"-Full of Action

Riders of Mystery, the new picture which opened a day's engagement at the theatre is one of the best action pictures of the season.

It keeps the interest stimulated every moment, and has just the right amount of romance in it to make it one of the best pictures of its kind we have ever seen.

Given a live young hero like Bob Merriwell, commendably played by Bill Cody, a beautiful girl like Helen Arliss, the sheriff's daughter, played with feeling by Peggy O'Dare, phantom bandits, an attempted murder, stage hold-up, abduction and a fight on the river road—and you have the thrilling moments in Riders of Mystery.

This picture is crammed full of rapid fire action. Situation is piled on situation, and suspense is followed

When Bob Merriwell and his sidekick Old Jerry Jones find the wounded sheriff, who has started out alone to hunt out the phantom bandits, the action starts and does not stop until, after Bob has eskaped a hanging, rescues Helen from the thieves, and captures the robbers and restores the stolen money.

Bill Cody is a capable young hero. Frank Rice, who plays Old Jerry furnishes some delightful comedy bits. and Tom Lingham is good as the sheriff. Mark V. Wright, the wolf in sheep's clothing, makes a good villain.

The picture is from an original story by George W. Pyper, and was directed by Robert North Bradbury. The out-of door scenes are especially lovely.

ADVANCE NOTICE

New Film Coming to Apollo Theatre

The new film announced for the Apollo theatre beginning...... is "Riders of Mystery" a new Independent Picture release.

This picture is from an original story by George W. Pyper, and was directed by Robert North Bradbury. It tells of the adventures of Bob Merriwell, a young prospector and his chance meeting with Sheriff Arliss of Argo county. As a result of this meeting, he and his side-kick Old Jerry begin a fascinating series of adventures including a narrowly escaped hanging, sensational fights with the bandits

DAILY NOTICE

"Riders of Mystery"-Powerful Film

Strength is the keynote of "Riders of Mystery" the new Independent Pictures release now playing at the Academy. The story, one of the most thrilling western dramas ever seen in this city is from the pen of George W. Pyper, a writer well known for his ingenuous actionladen plots.

Riders of Mystery is a red-blooded story of Arizona. It tells of the adventures of Bob Merriwell, played by Bill Cody, his side-kick, Old Jerry Jones, in their attempts to aid Sheriff Arliss and his daughter Helen in capturing the mysterious bandits who have terrorized the country-side for months. It abounds in thrilling moments and climaxes. The fight on the river road between the sheriff's posse and the bandits with Helen in the power of the thieves is regarded as a fine bit of screen action.

Riders of Mystery will continue to-day and to-morrow.

DAILY NOTICE

Strong melodrama, well played and directed is said to characterize Riders of Mystery, now playing at the...... theatre.

The story is a western melodrama and deals with the adventures of Bob Merriwell and his side-kick, Old Jerry Jones. They save the life of Sheriff Arliss who has gone out alone to hunt down the phantom bandits who have terrorized the vicinity for months. In an attempt to deliver a message and a belt to Helen, the sheriff's daughter, Bob is accused of the murder of the sheriff, and narrowly escapes hanging only by the intervention of Jerry. A series of exciting adventures follow in which Helen is tricked into following Dan Blair, the villain in his cave, where the gang of thieves have met for their last meeting before making a get-away. Their plans are frustrated by Bob and the sheriff's posse who after a sensational fight on the river road overcome the bandits, release Helen, and recover the stolen money.

The picture will continue to-day and to-morrow.

ADVANCE NOTICE

New Offering at Apollo Theatre

If you want to laugh, cry, cheer, be thrilled and delighted in a new way, Manager......of the.....theatre recommends his new picture "Riders Of Mystery" scheduled to open next.....

There is a human quality, plus thrills, action suspense in this new western melodrama, according to manager

The story is from the pen of George W. Pyper, a well-known writer of western thrillers. It was directed by Robert North Bradbury.

The story concerns the exciting adventures of Bob Merriwell, a young prospector and his side kick, Old Jerry Jones, who save the life of Sheriff Arliss. Arliss has gone out alone to track down bandits who have been robbing and plundering the people of the district. Bob pledges himself to assist in the search, and in an endeavor to get word to the sheriff's daughter is suspected of the murder of Arliss. Jerry saves his life. In the exciting series of adventures that follow, he rescues Helen from the bandits, exposes Dan Blair, trusty stage driver as the head of the gang, and recovers much of the stolen property.

The picture will continue for......days.

Street Ballyhoo — Newspaper Tie-Up — Catchlines

STREET BALLYHOO

Capitalize on the present interest in the Ku Klux Klan, now evinced in every part of the country. One week before Riders of Mystery opens at your theatre hire a man and a horse to ride thru the streets of town, at nightfall. The rider should be dressed as a Klansman. He should have no advertising on him, nor should he say anything to anyone he meets. He is to stop at the corner drug store—buy cigarettes, candy, anything, and act exactly like a human being coming from somewhere and going somewhere. Run the stunt a few days and see if it does not create comment. If properly staged, it might even arouse newspaper investigation. If so, the man is not to answer any questions. Let the stunt develope, and within three days of the opening date of the picture ballyhoo the mysterious rider in your ads. Offer a prize for his identity. During the engagement he can ride thru the streets with a megaphone, calling "The mystery is solved at the......theatre."

NEWSPAPER TIE-UP

Ask one of your local newspapers if they will run a contest offering small cash-prizes, and tickets for the theatre for the best letters written by women over eighteen on the subject of "What types of men do you trust most and why". As you readily see, this contest has for its basic idea the situation in Riders of Mystery in which Helen believing Dan Blair to be honest, follows him supposedly to her father. Instead she is led to the headquarters of his gang, and only by the merest chance is she saved from marriage with this villain.

You will, as usual, co-operate with the newspaper in giving the prizes. Perhaps one of your local stores will give these prizes in exchange for the publicity secured in the newspaper thru the contest. Posters telling about the contest on the billboards, and outside the theatre will build up interest.

SNAPPY CATCHLINES

Would you believe any man? Helen Arliss did—to her sorrow.

A picture of strong love, strong hate, and strong revenge. See Riders of Mystery—name of theatre and dates.

Mystery—Love—sinister deeds, and a beautiful girl. See Riders of Mystery—name of theatre and play dates. Is father-love stronger than mother-love?
See Riders of Mystery—name of theatre and dates.

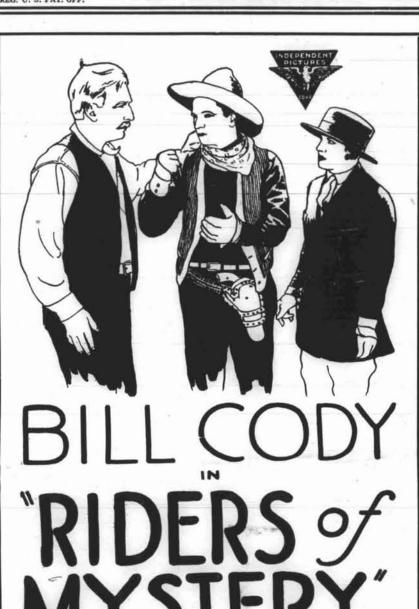
Is all fair in love and war?
See Riders of Mystery—name of theatre and dates.

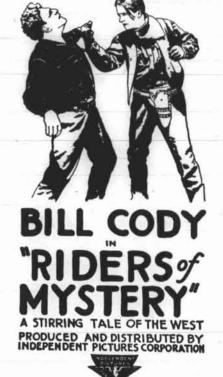
A sweeping picture of thrills, red-blooded men and a beautiful woman woven around a sinister mystery. See Riders of Mystery—name of theatre and dates.



ADVERTISING CUTS OR MATS







SUGGESTED TYPE COPY

See This New Star who Rides, Jumps, Fights, Swims, Shoots, and Champions the Down-Trodden

1 Week Beginning

Day & Date

At the Theatre

Make'em Wonder With This Teaser Campaign

Ad. No. 1

Mr. B.

You Are Known. You Cannot escape.

Full Expose to-morrow.

(Exhibitor's Initials.)

Ad. No. 2

PRODUCED AND DISTRIBUTED 650 INDEPENDENT PICTURES CORPORATION

STIRRING TALE OF

Mr. Mayor:

You are honoring a criminal.

Only co operation will save you. Mr. B. must be discovered.

Watch to-morrow's paper. (Exhibitor's Initials.)

Ad. No. 3

Mr. Chief of Police:

You are neglecting your duty. Mystery and murder runs ram

(Exhibitor's Initials.)

Mr. B. is responsible.

Full expose to-morrow.

Ad. No. 4

Fellow Townsmen:

Mr. B. Is Dan Blair
A man of Mystery
In Riders of Mystery

at the

Name of theatre and play dates.

N. B. Tie this teaser advertising campaign up with stickers and throw-aways bearing the same type of message. Perhaps one of your merchants who is friendly will use the stickers on his packages.



PRODUCTION & STAR CUTS





Who is Bill Cody

?

Coming in

"RIDERS OF MYSTERY"

TEASER No. 1

Type Ad with Thumb Cut

*Teaser Campaign *



2 COL. SCENE CUT OR MAT



Bill Cody

at the

..... Theatre

Beginning .

in

"RIDERS OF MYSTERY"

TEASER No. 2

Type Ad with Thumb Cut



1 Col. Star Cut or Mat



1 Col Scene Cut or Mai



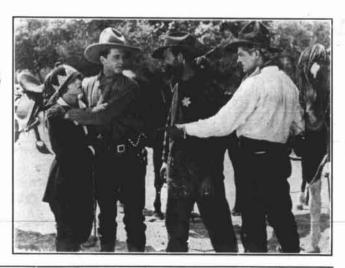
1 Col. Star Cut or Mat

LOBBY DISPLAY



Two 22 x 28's

Perfect Gelaton Reproduction



A NEW IDEA!!

TEASER SLIDES

A NEW IDEA!!



Weeks in advance of your showing.

USE THIS One Week in advance of your showing.



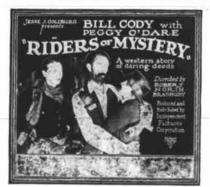
Fine Screen Halftones Available for the House Organ



NOT FOR

NEWSPAPERS



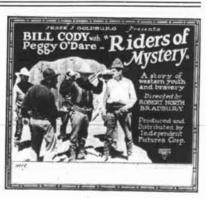


SLIDE A

Multi Colored Slides

TWO STYLES

Beautiful Colorings and Art Work

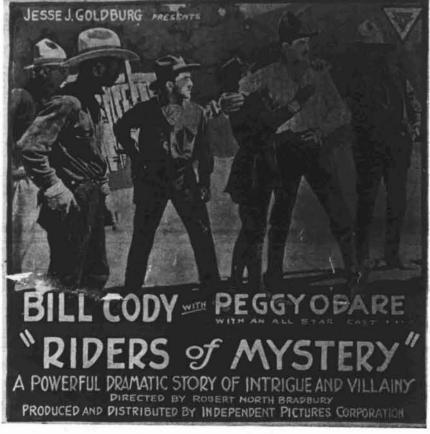


SLIDE B

LITHOGRAPHS

FROM HAND PAINTED OIL SKETCHES

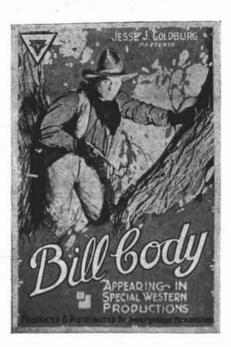
Use These Liberally



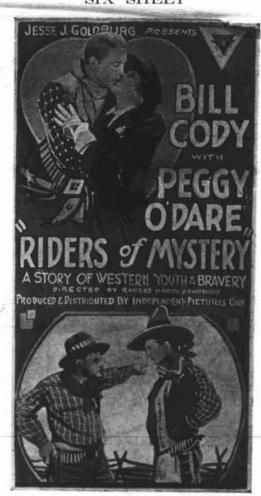
High Class Original Designs



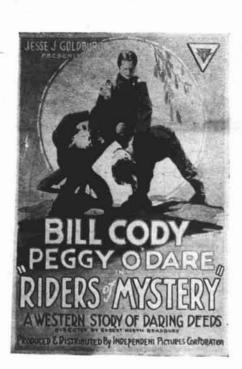
SIX SHEET



1 SHEET A



THREE SHEET



1 SHEET B

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National Audio-Visual Conservation Center
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